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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Thomas J. Bachinski et al.  
Application No. : 09/406,575 Confirmation No.: 1763  
Filed : September 24, 1999  
For : MEDICAL GRAFTING CONNECTORS AND FASTENERS  
Group Art Unit : 3738  
Examiner : Paul B. Prebilic

New York, New York 10020  
December 22, 2004

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action dated  
October 8, 2004, applicants respectfully request  
reconsideration in light of the following:

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.

Appendices A and B are attached hereto.

Not  
Entered  
PBP  
1-4-05